

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJECT Units in the Transcaucasus Military District

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Transcaucasus Military District

1. Following is a partial list of the command of the Transcaucasus Military District:

Commander of Transcaucasus MD: General of the Army Antonov
Commander of the 3rd Army (7th Army?): Col. Gen. Fedyuninski
Commander of the 17th PAD (Pulemetnaya Artilleriiskaya Diviziya, Machine Gun Artillery Division): Maj. Gen. Galai, an obscure person who has not seen active service previously.

Assistant to the regimental commander: Col. Mukhtarov, who is addicted to alcohol.

Commander of the 2nd Battalion of the 42nd Machine Gun Company: Lt. Col. Udovin, a recent arrival, previously on duty with the UR forces in the Kuril Islands.

Chief of Political Section of the 17th Division: Col. Grinchuk, a composed, intelligent person who acts very coolly.

Assistant to the commander of the 42nd Machine Gun Company (political): Lt. Col. Soldatenkov, who always wants to be conspicuous and tries to be on good terms with everyone.

Assistant to the 2nd Battalion of the 42nd Machine Gun Company (political): Capt. Shadrin.

In units of a company and in smaller units there is no separate political director (commissar); the job is filled by the company commander himself.

Border Protection Units

2. There are two or three border defense divisions in the Transcaucasus Military District. These detachments of troops are called UR forces. UR is the abbreviation of the Russian Ukrepleniye Raion which means "fortified district." In time of war the function of these UR forces is to cover the deployment of field forces. They are not primarily concerned with attack duties and their instruction, training, and position are planned accordingly. Since these forces are deployed all along the border area, they are not established very deeply. In general, at densely populated points like Leninakan, the depth of the covering position of these troops does not extend beyond 7 km.

Maintenance of Border Defense Installations

3. The positions of the border defense in general are composed of three rows of trenches. Since these trenches are not properly maintained, they are partly filled with earth that has slipped and fallen down. At points like Akhurik (not located), where fortified positions are contiguous, there are

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permanent fortifications based on a continuous series. These fortified positions were built during the war and each is equipped with one 45 mm gun and two or three machine guns. In the more recently built fortified positions the 45 mm guns are replaced by 76 mm guns. In spite of the fact that the old fortified positions need many repairs or even destruction prior to new construction work, the small caliber guns there are being replaced by guns of 76 mm caliber. These fortifications are composed of T-34 tank towers placed into position on concrete and steel base pedestals.

4. Location of Units in the Vicinity of Leninakan

Headquarters of the 17th Machine Gun Artillery Division and the 212th Artillery Regiment are located four kilometers west of Leninakan.

Headquarters of the 39th Machine Gun Regiment are at Akhurik.

Headquarters of the 42nd Machine Gun Regiment are at Kapuli (40-40N, 43-47E), in the vicinity of Leninakan. The 42nd Machine Gun Regiment is deployed along the Soviet-Turkish border on a front of 40 km between Aralik (SSW of Leninakan) and Ani (40-30N, 43-34E).*

Composition of the 17th Machine Gun Artillery Division

5. The 17th Machine Gun Artillery Division is composed of the following units:

- a. Two machine gun regiments, the 39th and the 42nd.
 - b. One artillery regiment, the 212th, which is composed of three artillery units of 48 guns each. In addition to this, 76 artillery pieces of 152 mm caliber.
 - c. One tank regiment composed of a mechanized unit of twenty 100 mm self-propelled guns, a tank battalion of 20 tanks, a mechanized unit of twenty 76 mm self-propelled guns.
 - d. An engineer corps battalion.
 - e. A signal corps battalion.
6. A regiment is composed of three battalions as described below. It also includes an artillery unit of 20 self-propelled 100 mm guns, a signal corps unit, a reconnaissance unit, and an engineer unit. Each machine gun regiment has the following motorized transportation vehicles: 12 trucks of two or three tons each and one jeep. The jeep used by the 17th Machine Gun Artillery Division is model 67 of the Gorki automobile factory.
7. A battalion is composed of three companies as described below. It also includes a radio communications unit. In addition to the arms assigned to the companies, it is equipped with four 76 mm guns and a battery of five motorized 76 mm guns.
8. Each company of the 42nd Machine Gun Regiment includes the following: nine air-cooled Goryunov machine guns of 7.62 mm, three Degtyarev machine guns tripod type, of 7.62 mm caliber, twelve Tokarev light machine guns of 7.62 mm caliber, 22 heavy rifles, and two artillery units of 57 mm each. The personnel of each company is composed of 60 persons. Company personnel are constantly on guard over the arms where the defensive positions are located. UR units are not equipped with mortars, anti-tank guns, and other types of bombs.

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